

MONTANA STATE PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: June 18, 2014

Agenda Item: Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grants – award of 2014 projects

Division: Parks **Action Needed:** Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 min.

Background (Brief description of the issue, decision to be made, history, etc.):

Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) dollars are federal funds available to the states to make improvements which benefit outdoor recreation. The funds received by Montana are typically split between improvements to state park sites and a grant program to benefit outdoor recreational facilities in Montana communities. A condition of the program is that sponsors provide a 50% cost match for their respective projects. For the most recent grant cycle opportunity, a total of 6 LWCF community grant applications were submitted for the following projects;

Gallatin County Parks	Gallatin Regional Park (Ph. II)	\$75,000
City of Hardin	Heimat Park restrooms	\$75,000
City of Helena	Playground Equipment Replacement	\$42,414
City of Lewistown	Swimming Pool Rehabilitation	\$75,000
City of Sidney	East Playground Area Renovation	\$32,603
City of Billings	South Park Playground Renovation	\$75,000

Public Involvement Process & Results (Brief description of the type of public involvement and summary of what we heard from the public):

Soliciting public input and comment on each community LWCF grant application is the responsibility of the respective applicant prior to submittal. Each applicant conducted a public involvement process for their respective projects. Given the nature of the proposed projects (maintenance of existing facilities, upgrade of playground equipment/swimming pools, work in existing local government managed park areas, etc.), the public comments generated were minimal. All the proposed projects were supported in the local communities.

Alternatives and Analysis (Brief description of alternative solutions with analysis of the pros and cons of each):

Alt. #1 – award the recommended 6 community LWCF projects in the amount of approximately \$375,000 as submitted.

Alt. #2 – not award the available LWCF funds to the community projects.

Agency Recommendation and Rationale (Brief description of our recommendation to the Board and the reasons for it):

Award the proposed LWCF grants for the 6 community outdoor recreational projects as submitted.

Proposed Motion (Draft language the Board could use to adopt the agency recommendation):

I move to concur with the department's approval of the stateside Land and Water Conservation fund grants for 2014.